BILL NO. S-82-10-08 (40 amen ded)

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SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. S- 2/7-82

AN ORDINANCE approving the filing of a petition to establish a conservancy district for the implementation of certain flood control projects.

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and surrounding areas have, over the last several years, experienced repeated severe flooding; and

WHEREAS, this flooding has caused extensive damage to homes and businesses, and interfered with the personal and business activities in and around the City of Fort Wayne; and

WHEREAS, no adequate administrative vehicle presently exists for the implementation of flood control plans and works which have been, or may be, developed; and

WHEREAS, such an administrative vehicle is necessary to develop, coordinate and control such plans and projects; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish such an administrative vehicle for the purposes of establishing, controlling and collecting such use and benefit taxes as may be levied to fund any necessary flood control project(s); and

WHEREAS, such an administrative vehicle is necessary for the purposes of seeking and accepting such financial aid and contributions as may be available from any source, and applying said funds to necessary projects; and

WHEREAS, state law (I.C. 13-3-3-1, et seq.) permits the establishment of a conservancy district for flood control purposes; and

WHEREAS, there has been prepared a "Petition to Establish Conservancy District", which is the necessary first step to create such a conservancy district.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL

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OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

4 5 SECTION 1. That the creation of an agency to develop,

coordinate and finance flood control plans and projects for the future protection and wellbeing of the people and property in

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and around the City of Fort Wayne is necessary.

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SECTION 2. That a proper and expedient course to follow to meet this need is for the City of Fort Wayne to petition

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for the establishment of a conservancy district as authorized

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by I.C. 13-3-3-1, et seq. That the Common Council of the City of SECTION 3.

13 14 Fort Wayne has reviewed the "Petition to Establish Conservancy District", with attachments, as prepared by legal counsel, a

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copy of which is attached hereto as a part hereof.

is within the proposed conservancy district.

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SECTION 4. Except as provided in Section 5 hereof, the "Petition to Establish Conservancy District" is approved

in all respects and should be filed with the Circuit Court to initiate the establishment of a conservancy district, and the City Attorney should take all other necessary steps for the

which will benefit the City of Fort Wayne and the land which

30 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation of real property

and effect from and after its passage and any and all necessary

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APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Boxberger, City Attorney

in the conservancy district.

approval by the Mayor.

complete establishment of a conservancy district for the purpose of initiating, and maintaining certain flood control projects

SECTION 5. That no special benefit tax shall exceed

SECTION 6. That this Ordinance shall be in full force

SECTION 4. That the "Petition to Establish Conservancy District" is approved in all respects and should be filed with the Circuit Court to initiate the establishment of a conservancy district, and the City Attorney should take all other necessary steps for the complete establishment of a conservancy district for the purpose of initiating, and maintaining certain flood control projects which will benefit the City of Fort Wayne and the land which is within the proposed conservancy district.

SECTION 5. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor.

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Read the seconded by by title and r Plan Commission due legal noti	first time : referred to to on for recomm .ce at the C		n motion by duly adopted, duly adopted, dearing dearing ers, City-Count	read the s	econd time (and the City Id after
Indiana, on			at	o'clock	day of
DATE:	10-12-1		Charles.	W. Weate	- CITY CLERK
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passage. PASS	ED (LOST)	by the follo	, and duly ad wing vote:		
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Indiana, as (20	ONING MAP)	(GENERAL)	(NOITAXBUUM)	(SPECIAL)	
(APPROPRIATION)		,	ITION) NO.	1-21	7-82
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CHARLES W. WEST	Illes lerri TERMAN - CIT	n and	Samue PRESIDING OF		larico
Presented	by me to the	Mayor of th	e City of Fort	Wayne, Ind	liana, on
the 94	day	of Olive	ember, 19 8d	, at the	hour of
499	0	clock 4	.M.,E.S.T.		
			CHARLES W. W	ESTERMAN -	leslerman CITY CLERK
			29th day o	f Novem	
19 <u>8</u> 2, at the	hour of	<u>9</u> o'c	lockA.M.	,E.S.T.	
			with	Sie	
			WIN MOSES, J	R MAYOR	

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Author That she

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BILL NO.	S-82-10-08				
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WE, YOUR COM	MITTEE ON	Regulation	ns ,	TO WHOM WAS	REFERRED AN
ORDINANCE	approving t	the filing o	f a petition	on to estab	lish a
conservanc	y district	for the impl	ementation	of certain	flood
control pr	ojects				
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HAVE HAD SAI	D ORDINANCE	UNDER CONSID	ERATION AN	D BEG LEAVE	TO REPORT
BACK TO THE	COMMON COUNC	IL THAT SAID	ORDINANCE	DO	PASS.
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		11-23-82	CONCURRED IN		

CHARLES W. WESTERMAN, CITY CLERK

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE ALLEN CIRCUIT COURT

COUNTY OF ALLEN) CAUSE NO.

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE'S)

PETITION TO ESTABLISH A CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

PETITION FOR ESTABLISHMENT

COMES NOW, the CITY OF FORT WAYNE, by counsel, and petitions the Court for an order approving the establishment of a conservancy district pursuant to I.C. 13-3-3-1, et seq. In support of this petition, it is stated:

- That I.C. 13-3-3-1-, et seq., provides for the establishment of a conservancy district;
- 2. That this Court has exclusive jurisdiction over a petition to establish a conservancy district pursuant to I.C. 13-3-3-14;
- 3. That said statute further provides that a municipality may petition, or join in a petition, for the establishment of a conservancy district involving property wholly or partially within the corporate limits of said municipality;
- 4. That the Common Council for the City of Fort Wayne did, on October ____, 1982, pass an ordinance, referred to as Bill No. S-82-10-___, approving this petition and authorizing its filing on behalf of the City of Fort Wayne;
- That the name for the proposed district is the "Allen County Conservancy District";
- 6. That the area to be included in the district is all land presently within the established boundaries of Allen County, Indiana, including all of the incorporated area of the City of Fort

Wayne; also including the municipalities of New Haven, Woodburn
Monroeville, Grabill and Muntertown in the event that, and at such
time as, the legislative bodies or residents of each said municipality join in this petition or separately petition for the inclusion
in the district;

- 7. That the district is to be established for the specific purposes of flood prevention and control;
- 8. That such a conservancy district is necessary to protect the citizens and property of Fort Wayne and surrounding areas from injury and damage, and to relieve or eliminate the adverse economic impact caused by flooding;
- 9. That the costs and damages of and to be paid solely by the district will probably be less than the benefits received in the district:
- 10. That the creation of the conservancy district will be conducive to public health, safety and welfare;
- 11. That this petition for the establishment of the conservancy district is not conditioned upon the receipt of federal or state funds;
- 12. That the establishment, maintenance and improvement of the works necessary to accomplish the purposes of the conservancy district will be funded by an annual levy of a special benefits tax, the assessment of land found to be exceptionally benefitted and such other state or federal funds as may be available; and
- 13. That the proposed conservancy district will have nine (9) areas, and one (1) director for each such area.

WHEREFORE, the City of Fort Wayne prays and requests that the Court examine this petition as to form and statutory requirements, and, if proper, refer this petition to the NRCI for consideration, and for all other just and proper relief in the premises.

NAMES SUBMITTED TO CITY CLERK - REGARDING BIRTH NO. S-82-10-08

2. ETHEL BLOCK
2. WOODROW WILSON - JOHN HILGER - ELIS MCFADDEN - COMBINED PRESENTATION
3. TOM DUSTIN
4. DAY YOUBER - ALLEN COUNTY TRUSTER
5. KENNETH HARBER - CITIZEN (PEMBERTON AREA)
6. BILL SHORT - CITIZEN OF MR. GALLIVAN - ATTORNEY
(PLEASANT TOWNSHIP)
7. JACK BRIDGES -- 17920 TONKLIN ROAD

9. HILDA ZENT) COVINGTON AND ARDMORE AREA

BETTY MILLS - CITY OF NEW HAVEN - TRIER DITCH

11. KENNETH RINGER - WEST MAIN STREET
12. BON STEININGER - ATTORNEY

3. HAROLD W. FEACHTER - CITIZEN

JIM WINTER - WAYNE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

15. (JAKE KERN) - NEIGHBORHOOD SPOKESPERSON in Place Jury Casebere
16. MARTIN LEASON OR DAN CARPENTER - SPY RUN

17. BRUCE FRANKE _______

18. DAN WIRE

19. CARL O'NEAL 20. DAVID PERLINI

20. DAVID PERLIN: 21. FRANK HEYMAN

1. FRANK HEYMAN 2. ABE EARKAS

CLARENCE E. SMITH COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, INC.

WILLIAM L. SWEET - ALLEN COUNTY SURVEYOR (WANTS TO BE LAST
OR VERY LATE ON THE AGENDA --SO THAT HE MAY HELP SUMMARIZE
REMARKS OF PREVIOUS SPEAKERS)

25. MIKE GRAHAM - CD&P

Amanda Stauffer - (called Monday - wants to be placed on the agenda - was out of town for three weeks - attending a sick mother and funeral --(mother died).

names in ty now 1d - 7:00 you the spin To appear before Common Council regarding Bill No. S-82-10-08 Ethel Block-Woodrow Wilson - John Wilger, Elia Ma Fadden, gerantitine Ton Dustin Dan Yoder - Allen County Trustees Menniel Harter- citzen - (Pemberten area).

(Bill Shart - Celizen on you, Galleran actury) (Oleasanh Thwo ship Jak Bredges- 1700 Janklen Gd. (Low Lemboch - Coverigton & ardmere kree Helan zent Betty Mills - City of New Harm Tries Benneth Genger - West main Street low Steininger - attorney -Hurse W. Feichter -) Citizen Jim Whater - Wuyse Formsky Tustie. Miller of Lacon on Dan Corporates

FOR COUNCIL MEETING, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

RE: CONSERVANCY

BRUCE FRANKE DAN WIRE CARL O'NEAL DAVID PERLINI FRANK HEYMAN ABE FARKAS

ALSO: NEIGHBORHOOD SPOKESPERSONS

JAKE KERN

MARTIN LEASON ON Dan Consenter - Spy Run.



William L. Sweet, P.E., L.S.

ALLEN COUNTY SURVEYOR

ONE MAIN STREET, 6TH FLOOR

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46802

PHONE (219)423-7625

November 12, 1982

Fort Wayne City Council City/County Building Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

Gentlemen and Mrs. Bradbury:

Please put me on the agenda for the Committee meeting on November 16, 1982.

I would also appreciate being last or very late on your list of speakers: it is my thought that I may be able to be of real assistance to you by summarizing the remarks of previous speakers.

Sincerely yours,

William L. Sweet, P.E., L.S.

Allen County Surveyor

WLS/cc



Coalition For The Environment, Inc. Fort Wayne, Indiana

NOVEMBER 11, 1982

CHARLES WESTERMAN CITY CLERK

I would like to be on the agenda of the city Council meeting Tuesday night November 16, 1982, conserning the Flood Plan, Representing the Coalition For the Environment, Inc. as Fresident.

Sincerely Yours, Clarence E. Smith CLARENCE E. SMITH 4711 Tacoma Ave, Fort Wayne, Ind. 46807 TXHIBIT A



Indiana Division

November 16, 1982

The Isaak Walton League of America

DEFENDERS OF SOIL, WOODS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

OFFICERS: SEPT. 1982 - SEPT. 1983

PRESIDENT: ETHYLE R. BLOCH, 6340 DONNA RO., FORT WAYNE, IN 46819, PHONE 219 - 747-4450 FIRST VP

SECRETARY TREASURER CONNIE BYERS GALES, ATWOOD 2025 N. APPERSON WAY 3625 LINCOLN ST. GARY, IN KOKOMO, IN 46901

GEORGE W. SCHMITT JODI PIERCE 1935 S BUCKEYE 321 HICKORY STREET KOKOMO, IN 46360

TED GLICK 2933 W. 39th AVENUE HOBART IN

SOUTHWEST VP M. E. WEBBER 1517 S THIRD CLINTON, IN 47842

NORTHEAST VP DDN WILKINSDN 701 COLUMBIA FORT WAYNE, IN

WEST CENTRAL VP
JAMES D. HDDSHIRE
RR1, 80 X 286

GERGE REISMILLER
LARRY GOODPASTURE
RR1, 80 X 277
GREENFIELD, IN
GREENFIELD, IN

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. THOMAS E. DUSTIN, 1802 CHAPMAN ROAD, HUNTERTOWN, IN 46748, PHONE 219-637-6264

To: Common Council

City of Fort Wayne, Indiana

Bill Number S-82-10-08

Statement of: Indiana Division, Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

Thomas E. Dustin, Executive Secretary

1802 Chapman Road

Huntertown, Indiana 46748

Honorable Members:

As we have submitted in the past, you will find the 1982 resolution of the Indiana Izaak Walton League dealing with flood control in the Fort Wayne area. This is being provided to continue our interest and standing in all administrative phases of the program.

We have reviewed the language of the proposed ordinance as it existed last week, and the proposed Petition For Establishment of a Conservancy District. In our view, these documents are wholly inconsistent with the League's position, in that they provide no directions whatever toward an acceptable plan which will address the root causes of Fort Wayne's flooding problems,

I wish to make it clear that the League supports an effective flood control plan, and that plan is adequately outlined in our resolution. Our recommendations have thus far been totally ignored in favor of a discredited Corps of Engineers retread which contains neither assured benefits nor accurate costs. It is merely an expeditious and mechanistic approach which not only will fail to solve Fort Wayne's problems. but will actually aggravate those problems because it ignores their causes.

The Conservancy District, which is also officially opposed by our Fort Wayne Chapter, should not be created as proposed, for the following reasons, among others:

1) The purpose of the Conservancy District is limited to flood control, when there are a total of nine purposes for which such a District can be created. It ignores recreation, among other purposes, thus sidetracking a long-sought River Greenway system. IC 13-3-3-2 states as follows:

"(6) Developing forests, wildlife areas, parks, and recreational facilities where feasible in connection with beneficial water management."

This would be among the keystones of intent in our resolution, which would also add substantially to flood control objectives by metering flood waters reaching the city.

- 2) The Conservancy District also ignores erosion in its purposes, as set forth in the Act:
 - "(7) Preventing the loss of topsoil from injurious water erosion."

This is also one of the root problems in the Fort Wayne area. Siltation seriously impairs channel capacity to speed drainage in the most affected areas. The plan will merely dredge out symptoms, not causes.

- 3) The proposed District is limited to Fort Wayne; and there seems almost no likelihood that other jurisdictions will join it. Without direct participation within all jurisdictions in the watershed, the effectiveness of the District will be close to nil. As we have testified on several occasions, all of the involved jurisdictions are essential to resolution of Fort Wayne's problems--all jurisdictions in Allen County and in all other Indiana counties within the watershed, and all jurisdictions in the affected areas of Ohio, where the two major streams originate. EVERYTHING will be wasted in the absence of that level of cooperation and interaction.
- 4) If this District is created in its presently proposed form, there is NO likelihood that any plan than the one presently endorsed by the city will be considered, since the District will be dominated by the very jurisdictions which have advocated that plan. It is perfectly clear that none of these jurisdictions have the slightest intent to prevent future alteration of the remaining floodways and other areas subject to flooding. They had several opportunities to demonstrate that intent since the March flood, and they did nothing to prevent additional encroachments.
- 5) Once created, Conservancy Districts have enormous taxing powers, powers of condemnation virtually unbridled, and it is next to impossible for the affected populations to dissolve them--though dissolution does occur from time to time bécause so many of them are ineffective and destructive.
- 6) The costs used by the City in attempting to sell this project and to establish the District are antiquated at \$119-million, and everyone knows it but the taxpayers who will be victimized by it. In today's



Indiana Division

The Izaak Walton League of America

DEFENDERS OF SOIL, WOODS, WATERS AND WILDLIFE

OFFICERS SEPT. 1982 - SEPT 1983

PRESIDENT: ETHYLE R. BLDCH, 6340 OONNA RD , FORT WAYNE, IN 46819, PHONE 219 - 747-4450 SECRETARY TREASURER EIRRY VI GEORGE W SCHMITT JOOI PIERCE
1071 S RUCKEYE 321 HICKORY STREET 2026 N APPERSON WAY 3625 LINCOLN ST KOKOMO, IN GARY, IN

CLAYTON, IN

46408 NORTHEAST VP WEST CENTRAL VP JAMES O HOOSHIRE RRI. BOX 266

46901 EAST CENTRAL VP GEORGE REISMILLER LARRY GOODPASTURE 405 WALNUT ST. RR1, BOX 277

SOUTHEAST VP

NDBTHWEET VE 2933 W. 39th AVENUE 46342 SOUTHWEST VE M. E WEBBER 1517 S THIRD CLINTON, IN

47842

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY THOMAS E DUSTIN, 1802 CHAPMAN ROAD, HUNTERTOWN, IN 46748, PHONE 219-637-6264

RESOLUTION NO. 14

FLOOD CONTROL AT FORT WAYNE

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Wayne experienced what is said to have been a "record" flood in the Spring of 1982, despite the fact that less precipitation was involved than in the previously recognized 1913 record flood, and lower flow rates were documented; and,

WHEREAS, man-made obstructions and changes in the flood plain and floodway areas of the St. Mary's, St. Joseph, and Maumee Rivers over the years have significantly contributed to the water levels within the city during flood conditions; and,

WHEREAS, local and state authorities have failed to prohibit construction, filling, channel modification and other practices which have amplified flood problems at Fort Wayne, despite the well-documented hydrologic history of the area's three rivers known throughout this century; and,

WHEREAS, the favored remedial plan presented by the City of Fort Wayne centers on major ditch bypassing of St. Mary's waters south and east of the city, miles of channelization of the Maumee east of the city as it flows toward Ohio and downstream cities, other channel work and dikes within the city. and only superficial reference to relocation of structures exposed to flood damages; and,

WHEREAS, flood losses in the area have been estimated at an

annual average of \$9-million, insufficient for a payback of even the interest on the estimated \$118-million cost of this plan, even if it were effective enough to reduce residual damages to zero; and,

701 COLUMBIA

46805

WHEREAS, the environmental impact of this project has not been considered at all, cost estimates are more than half a decade old, and the plan addresses only local relief without considering downstream effects; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Indiana Division, Izaak Walton League of America, in convention assembled this 13th day of June, 1982, at Kokomo, Indiana. calls for a full inter-governmental review of flood control programming at Fort Wayne. including environmental impact and cost effectiveness, with primary emphasis on nonstructural remedies, including:

a) Rigid zoning against all construction and alteration on remaining natural flood plains and floodways in the watershed;

b) Both short-term and longterm policy of removing buildings and other structures exposed to flood damages or which obstruct or impede flow of the rivers at the 100-year level;

c) Dedication of existing natural flood plains and restoration of altered or inappropriately managed flood plains and as "greenways." floodways recreational corridors and other uses not damaged significantly by high waters;

d)'Agricultural setbacks and reforestation of such corridors where excessive drainage contributes to flood problems,

siltation in the rivers, and runoff of fertilizers and pesticides; and

e) Enactment and implementation of the foregoing policies and practices be a prerequisite to any Federal or state funding of an overall flood control program centering on the Fort Wayne area; and,

BE ĬТ FURTHER RESOLVED, that because those who currently live in flood prone areas often understand little about the causes of flooding and the principles of hydrology, the Indiana Division and Fort Wayne Chapter of the League dedicate themselves to conduct a grass roots campaign to educate those citizens of Fort Wayne and Allen County directly affected by this flood as to the benefits and costeffectiveness of the abovementioned non-structural remedies for flooding.

real world, the costs will be \$200-million, and possibly much more. To the extent costs have not been officially updated, this is a dishonest program. Also, the benefits have not been calculated; and to that extent, the program is a deception, or misleading at best. It has been said that the Corps of Engineers can later develop an economic feasibility study. To that, we say nonsense. It is perfectly routine for the Corps to prepare benefit-to-cost ratios before projects are authorized; and such a study could be carried out before any dragons are created to start an infeasible program. If a Congressional resolution is needed for Corps authority to complete such a study, that can easily be obtained. But you should not create this District until that is done. We should add that such a study should not take long, since the plan is nothing but a resurrection of one of the Corps' original concepts.

- 7) Considering the enormous fiscal problems of this City, other public works priorities, a potential quarter-billion-dollar state debt, the probability of increased state taxes on individuals and businesses next year, and the dramatic reduction in Federal aid for programs of this kind, the possible quarter-billion dollar cost of this flood control plan should be viewed as politically suicidal for those who would try to load it onto the local, state, and Federal taxpayers. And considering the single-minded and undeviating pursuit of this particularly bad plan, it is beyond our understanding what the underlying influences may be.
- 8) There is neither a lid on the amount of possible assessments, nor a veto power by any local agency over the taxation and spending powers of the District. From the viewpoint of the District's supporters, that is perfectly understandable because the costs will be staggering, and the public has no idea of what these amounts will mean to them or to the industries of this already-depressed area. Accurate calculation of costs, benefits, and assessments should be plainly disclosed before any Conservancy District is created. The ordinance could put the bit in the teeth of a wild and unbridled horse.

In summary, the District should not be created, and the enabling ordinance should be tabled and redrawn for later consideration when all of the foregoing factors have been resolved, typically:

- A realistic calculation of costs, benefits, and beneficiary assessments;
- Redevelopment of a plan which is economically and environmentally responsible;
- 3) Inclusion of all watershed jurisdictions, including those in Ohio;
- Establishment of a cap upon levies;
- 5) Broadening of the purposes of the District;
- 6) Consideration of whether the District should have the powers of condemnation

FORT WAYNE CHAPTER

Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

DEFENDER OF SOIL, WOODS, WATERS AND WILD LIFE 17100 GRIFFIN RD., HUNTERTOWN, INDIANA 46748

PRESIDENT: SUSAN TILL 1911 HOLME COURT FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46825 (219) 637-3443



November 16, 1932

II: Hambers of the Sity Council of Port Syne, Indian

I am Jusan Mill, Exceeded of the Fort type Objector Izeah Melton League of America.

The Tent Types Thanter has been cognisent of the flood number of Tent Wayne and Allen Jounty since 1978 and has been represented on the Mayor's citizen advisory groun that has worked on a flood mevention when. The Chanter has presented flood control alternatives to the difficult appear to be missing from the Dlan that is before you togish.

At the Agent Mymbarship parting hald oril 20, 1092 the Tart Tipes Tighter conters would indicarrowed the following flord control ilterations

- A. Stop floading from combined seven everflows
- B. Strengthen Tity and County flood plain ordinances to:
 - 1. Stop annount ment in the 100 years flood aloin.
 - Adopt 100 year closed within deligantion typed on Johns of Engineers 1000 line or counts local higher ton week, which even is the highest.
- C. River Greenway Triority
 - l. Relocation must be accompanied by astablishment of Jiver precausey smill zones where encroschments are problitist.
 - Piling must be compensated by establishment of River transunvasil1 mone to provide flood capacity removed by dires.

The Chanter sumported the following flood control alternatives:

- 1. Berove line eludge at confluence to the Mosey Dam.
- 2. Improve, reprir, complete existing dikes.
- Relocate chronic basard areas, such as Thieme Drive, Griffin-Piver bend, Piver Haven and others.
- 4. Review cost effective design and construction of flood "cutoff" such as Trier Ditch, Junk Ditch and other.

At the .ov. 10th loard of Directors meeting the motion was made and messed unminously to encourage work to be done to develop a fessible



Statement to Sity Souncil, Nov. 16, 1982, page 2

flood control plan and to discourage the conservancy district plan until it is proven technically fessible and financially fundable.

The Fort Tayne Charter IMIA strongly requests that the City Souncil obtain a cost accounting of a conservancy district and then request that an environmental impact assessment be accomplished before any netition be presented for a conservancy district.

Then't mou.

Rusen Bill, Tresident Fort Byne Chanter INIA Open letter to : Members of the Common Council City of Fort Wayne

Re : Conservancy District

The Conservancy District Act under 19-3-2-1 was developed to enable two or more legal subdivisions to band together under one legal entity for the purpose of solving a common problem or problem or problem.

- (1.) The proposed petition before the Council does not meet that criteria.
- (2.) Under 19-3-2-24, the petition must indicate that :
 - a. the conservancy district is needed
 - b. proposes to cover a proper area and
 - c. could be established and operated in a manner compatible with existing conservancy districts, flood control projects, and water management projects.

I remind you that we have three large watersheds and several smaller ones that do not contribute to the flooding in Fort Wayne, and each has it's own flooding problems, with one, Flat Rock, having a conservancy district. You cannot have two conservancy districts with overlapping territory for the same purpose.

This petition does not include any of these three criteria.

- (3.) The city now has authority to cooperate with state and federal agencies and others in solving flooding problems within the city. Under 194-18-1, a city has the option of establishing a flood control district encompassing the city and a contiguous territory within four miles of the city. This authority clearly indicates there is no need for a conservancy district.
- (4.) The petitioners are seeking unlimited taxing authority, while claiming that they expect other parties (ie), federal and state to pay at least two-thirds of the total cost of a proposed flood control plan, they are unwilling to accept a cap on the local property tax levy, or to permit a review of the district's budget by the Country Council.

It requires a ten cent levy per one hundred dollars of assessed value to raise one million dollars from real property within the county. Should local property owners pay only forty million, which is approximately one third of the cost of the Trier Ditch Plan, we would need a (40) forty cent levy to pay that amount in ten years.

Should controversy or other conditions result in federal and state aid not being available, local property owners would have a levy in excess of two dollars per one hundred dollars of assessed value to cover the total cost of construction including finance fees.

Nearly every week we hear of another proposed bond issue and when combined with others, and other demands on property taxes, property taxes can, and will likely become confiscatory without the addition of the conservancy tax.

(5.) I would remind you that if you adopt a Conservancy District, you must comply with all provisions of the act, not just the ones that are convenient.

Under 19-3-2-88 (District plan benefitting solely abutting or approximate properties):

If the plan or parts of the plan benefits certain freeholders and not all freeholders in the district, the cost of the works to carry out that plan must be charged to those benefiting properties and must be handled separate from the funds of the general members. These assessments may be handled under Barret Law bonds. There is danger that these assessments could far exceed the benefits to those property owners.

- (6) In order to prevent a giant step backwards in flood control in Fort Wayne, we are recommending that you:
 - a. reject this petition
 - b. continue to utilize the authority you have in powers $\epsilon ranted$ to the cities
 - c. reverse the policy of enrochment into the flood plain
 - d. enlist the aid of S.W.C. Districts and other agencies that can aid in erosion control, reduced sedimentation, rapid run off of water, and other water management aids in order to PREVENT and control flooding.
 - e. Consider the benefits of establishing a flood control district under 19-4-18-1
 - f. Should a study show that there is still a need for a conservancy district, design one that;
 - 1. Covers a proper territory
 - 2. Solves a common problem and

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Gentlemen and Mrs. Bradbury:

I urge you to amend the petition for the Allen County Conservancy District, which is now before you, by inserting the wording as follows:

14. That each annual budget of the proposed conservancy district shall be publicly heard and approved by the county fiscal body prior to the third Thursday in August of each year; and further that no special benefit tax rate shall exceed 30 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation of real property.

In support of this may I state in behalf of myself and of many citizens, both City and County, that in my considered judgement:

- expenditures of the District must be submitted to a public lineby-line review by a body of persons elected by all voters - both City and County - the same voters who are proposed to be taxed: the County Council is the only such public body we have;
- b. a 30 cent tax "cap" will permit the District to do the job we all want done, provided the State and Federal help is forthcoming without this" "cap" the District could spend much more than you and I now intend:
- without both of the above provisions, our citizens will not agree and we will have a house divided in this matter - we will not get State and Federal help if this happens;
- Please use my exact words they have been carefully prepared in accord with State Law - - these words may not be perfect but the risk to the success of your petition by using these exact words is far less than the risk of not including the amendment I propose.

I plead with you to be true non-partisan stewards of good government by adopting this amendment.

> William L. Sweet Professional Engineer

16 November, 1982

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FORT WAYNE-ALLEN COUNTY 3001 Fairfield Avenue Fort Wayne, IN 46807 Nov. 16, 1982

TO: Members of the City Council of Fort Wayne, Indiana SUBJECT: Conservancy District Petition

The Trier Ditch Plan at a cost of \$119 million is not the answer to a very needed flood prevention plan for Fort Wayne and Allen County.

The League of Women Voters of Fort Wayne-Allen County at the public hearing held on September 22nd, urged the City Council and city officials to reconsider the printed Flood Prevention Flan in order to ston the gross abuse of our rivers and their flood ways-flood plain lands, and to manage the rivers properly. That means using a river basin management plan. Management of our three rivers involves working with the states of Michigan and Ohio to start at the headwaters and correct problems all the way into Indiana and out again to Lake Erie.

You dare not forget that the rivers <u>own</u> the floodways-flood plains and if man builds on them or fills them in, he will suffer <u>increasing physical and monetary consequences</u>.

Reconsider this petition and prepare a better plan to benefit the health and safety of all citizens in the Naumee Basin and the Junk Ditch watershed.

Thank you.

Mary Schneider, Pres.
Ethyle Bloch, Chm. Natural Resources
Committee
League of Women Voters of
Fort Meyne-Allen Sounty

Ethyle Block

Section of Kreept as provided in